



CITY MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER



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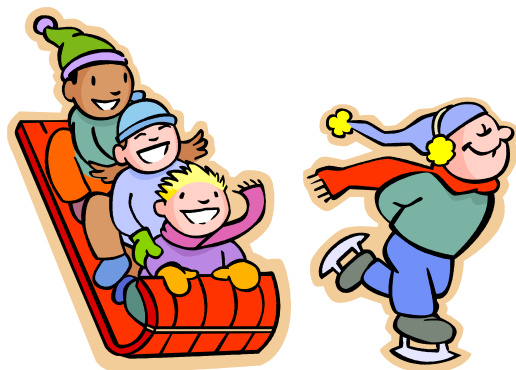
WINTER PARK ACTIVITIES

Looking for some winter fun this year? Woodstock's City parks offer a wide variety of outdoor winter activities. At Emricson Park (900 W. South Street) you can utilize the sledding hill as well as wide open spaces for cross country skiing or snow shoeing. And if it's cold enough, there's a pond for ice skating.

The Hennen Conservation Area (4522 Dean Street) offers a different type of experience when it comes to cross country skiing or snow shoeing and it too includes a pond for outdoor ice skating. Ice skating is only permissible when the ice is more than 5 inches thick. Signs are posted with the status of the ice thickness signifying the skating areas as being "open" or "closed".

Ryders Woods (751 E. Kimball Avenue) is also a great location to cross country ski or snow shoe, and there is also a small "bunny" hill on the east side of Raintree Park (401 E. Lake Street) for sledding.

Contact **Public Works** for updates on ice conditions, 815-338-6118.



WATER TREATMENT EMPLOYEE RECEIVED IEPA CERTIFICATION

Tim Whiston, Water Treatment Operator I for the City's Water Treatment Division, recently obtained Certificate of Competency as a Class D Water Treatment Plant Operator from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. This is the first certification offered through the IEPA for water treatment plant employees. To be eligible to take this exam, the State of Illinois has both education requirements along with at least six months responsible experience in a Class D water supply operation; which includes pumpage, storage or distribution.

To maintain certification within the 3 year period, the employee must complete additional drinking water related training hours. All training courses must get pre-approval from the Illinois EPA. Training for renewal training credit must directly relate to water distribution, water treatment, or the professional responsibilities of the operator.

Congratulations to Tim for this achievement and for his hard work to advance his professional status for the City of Woodstock!

Congratulations

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BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR – CLEAR SNOW & ICE FROM SIDEWALKS

The City of Woodstock encourages all residents to remove snow & ice from sidewalks along the frontage of their homes and private property. The clearing of snow provides a path for school children and other pedestrians to safely maneuver throughout the City. This time of year snow and ice thaws during the day, flows across the sidewalk, and freezes again at night. For the safety of others, spread some ice melt in those areas where 're-freeze' occurs to aide in the prevention of slips and falls.

By not clearing the snow from your public sidewalk, school children and pedestrians may be forced to walk along the edge of streets, which can be dangerous for both pedestrians and motorists.

Please be a good neighbor and remove the snow and ice from your sidewalks as soon after a winter storm event as possible to help to keep the City of Woodstock a safe place for pedestrians to travel during the winter months.



SAVE THE DATE!



The guest speaker at the February Coffee with the Chief will be Joe Rosner, a crime prevention and self-defense expert with military, law enforcement and professional bodyguard experience. Learn how to put good personal safety habits and tactics between yourself and a potential criminal which may greatly reduce your odds of becoming a victim of crime.

The meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 9, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. and will be held in the training room at the **Woodstock Police Department**.

For further information, please call 815-338-6787.

Quotation

It is best to act with confidence, no matter how little right you have to it.

[Lillian Hellman](#)

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK...

Tuesday, January 20 – City Council, 7PM, Council Chambers

Wednesday, January 21 – Transportation Commission, 7PM, Council Chambers

CHRISTMAS-TREE COLLECTION

The Department of Public Works has been collecting live Christmas trees for City of Woodstock residents for a few weeks now. The tree collection takes place on the same day as your normal garbage collection. Discarded Christmas trees should be placed in the parkway (that area between the street and the sidewalk) **by 7:00 AM on your regularly scheduled garbage day.**

The City's curbside Christmas tree collection continues through Friday, January 23, 2015. All live Christmas trees will be collected at the curb and processed through a brush chipper. Be sure that all ornaments, tinsel, lights, decorations, nails, buckets, bags, and stands are removed from the tree or it will not be picked up. Wreaths, roping, and other greens with wire cannot be picked up by the City, and they should be discarded with normal household waste for pickup by the refuse disposal company.

When placing your tree at the curb, please be sure that it is secure enough that it does not blow into the street creating a traffic hazard. No other trees or branches will be collected during this pickup program. City employees picking up the Christmas trees also participate in the snow and ice-control activities, and as a result, winter storm events may delay tree collection. Please contact the Department of Public Works at 815-338-6118 or pwdept@woodstockil.gov if you have any questions.



ADOPT A FIRE HYDRANT

Please consider clearing the snow from around the fire hydrant in front of your home when you clear your driveway and sidewalk during the winter. By doing so, you save the Fire Department precious time when called to the scene of a fire. With over 1,400 fire hydrants on the City's water system, it is impossible for the **Department of Public Works** and / or Woodstock Fire/ Rescue District to clear the snow from every hydrant. If every resident, however, cleared a 2-3' radius around the fire hydrant in front of each home making the hydrant visible, firemen can concentrate on their job, and you will be doing a great service to yourself, your neighbors, and your community.

Please, adopt a fire hydrant this winter!

Please contact the Department of Public Works if you have any questions, 815-338-6118.



HR NEWS

2015 Wellness Screening Program – Limited Number of Appointments Still Available on January 22nd



Don't forget to register for the **2015 Wellness Screening Program**. There are limited appointment times still available for **Thursday, January 22, 2015**. Participation in the program dramatically improved the health of many

participants last year.

This program is available at **NO COST** to all employees, spouses, dependents age 18+ and retirees **ON** Woodstock's health plan. Employees, spouses, dependents age 18+ and retirees **NOT** on the plan may self-pay for \$91 (paid via check); additional tests will be available on a self-pay basis (paid via check) on the day of the event. We encourage all employees to consider the multiple benefits of this program once again. As an additional incentive, those active employees on the health plan who participate will be rewarded with a reduction on their monthly health insurance premium contribution.

If you plan to participate in the Wellness Screening Program, you must register for the event prior to each event date.

RECRUITMENT

The following active positions are currently posted on the City of Woodstock's website:

Finance / Accounting Intern: General responsibilities include: perform technical, professional and administrative work that includes, but is not limited to: utility billing; cash reconciliations; accounts payable/accounts receivable; payroll; customer service / counter help; other miscellaneous finance / accounting duties as assigned. **Application Deadline: Friday, January 16, 2015 at 5:00PM.**

CDL-Licensed Maintenance Worker I – Public Works Streets Division: General responsibilities with a Sunday through Thursday work schedule include: performs a wide variety of manual labor and operates vehicles and equipment in the maintenance and repair of City streets, rights-of-way, and other City-owned property. **Application Deadline: Friday, January 30, 2015 at 5:00PM.**

American Red Cross Certified Lifeguards, WSI Instructors, Swim Aides (2015 SUMMER SEASONAL): These positions provide safety and instruction to swimmers at Woodstock WaterWorks pool and work days, evenings and weekends, dependent on pool attendance and weather. Lifeguards ensure the safety and health of all pool patrons, while WSI Instructors and Aides provide proper instruction/teaching for all City of Woodstock Recreation Department swimming lessons. **Application Deadline: Friday, March 6, 2015 at 5:00PM.**

Playground Program Counselors (2015 SUMMER SEASONAL): Counselors interact with and supervise a group of 8-12 children, ages 4-12 years, in a recreational setting. This position requires planning, implementing, and evaluating daily activities, and communicating with participants' parents on a regular basis. Counselors ensure safety of campers at all times. **Application Deadline: Friday, March 6, 2015 at 5:00PM.**

Public Works Seasonal Maintenance Workers (2015 SUMMER SEASONAL): These temporary positions perform various manual unskilled and semi-skilled tasks in the maintenance of City streets, parks and sewer/water utilities. Positions work under the direction of Supervisors and/or Foremen for the respective divisions of the Public Works Department. **Application Deadline: Friday, March 6, 2015 at 5:00PM.**

Please refer to the City's website at www.woodstockil.gov and click on the **Employment Opportunities** section for further details and the application process on the above opportunities. *The City of Woodstock is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

BIG FUN AT THE REC CENTER'S MERCY FRIDAY FAMILY FUN NIGHT KICK-OFF

The Rec Center was a hectic place Friday night as the **Recreation Department and Mercy Health System** hosted the annual *Friday Family Fun Nights Kick-Off*. Over 130 kids and their parents challenged family members on the inflatable obstacle course set-up in the gym, jumped in the bouncy house, or found their way through the inflatable maze.

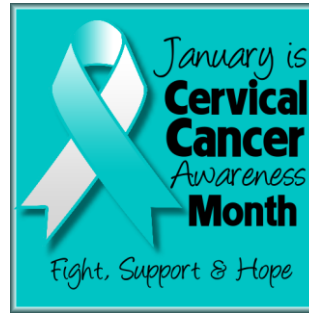
Families also snacked on healthy treats and played ping-pong, racquetball, walleyball, swam, or relaxed in the whirlpool or sauna.

Again this year, the Recreation Department has partnered with Mercy Health Systems to provide this family friendly activity during the chilly winter months to promote health and exercise. Many thanks to the volunteers from Mercy who passed out information and goodies for the participants.

Mercy Friday Family Fun Nights will be offered every Friday night from 5PM to 9PM until March 27. The program is free for Rec Center members and their families, and \$10 per family for non-members.



JANUARY IS CERVICAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH



The Illinois Department of Public Health is encouraging women ages 21 and older to speak with their physician or health care provider about cervical cancer screening and prevention during Cervical Health Awareness Month.

Cervical cancer forms in the tissues of the cervix (the lower, narrow end of the uterus or womb that connects the vagina or birth canal to the upper part of the uterus). Cervical cancer is almost always caused by human papillomavirus infection. With regular screenings and follow-up, this form of cancer is easily preventable and highly treatable when detected in its early stage.

“We recommend women have their first routine cervical screening at age 21,” said IDPH Director Dr. LaMar Hasbrouck. “I also encourage women, along with young girls, ages 11 to 13, and their parents, to ask their health care provider about HPV vaccines, which are highly effective at preventing certain forms of HPV.”

Each year approximately 12,000 women in the U.S. are diagnosed with cervical cancer. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports half of the cervical cancers occurred among women who are rarely or never screened for cervical cancer. There often are no noticeable symptoms of cervical cancer in its early stage, which is why it is important for women to be screened regularly. Symptoms usually develop when the cancer has become invasive and attacks nearby tissue. The most common symptom is abnormal vaginal bleeding. Although cervical cancer usually grows slowly, it can be detected with regular Pap tests (a procedure in which cells are scraped from the cervix and looked at under a microscope).

© 2015 *The Times* (mywebtimes.com). To learn more about cervical cancer, visit <http://www.nccco-online.org/>

MUST BE NEW YEARS RESOLUTION TIME!

The Recreation Center's group fitness classes are very popular for the New Years resolution crowd. Pictured is **Fitness Instructor Tim Hicks's Barbell Strength class** that drew a packed room of over 30 participants.

Forty group fitness land classes and twenty-one water classes are held each week at the Rec Center.

Tomorrow, Saturday, January 17 and January 31, we are offering free Land Group Fitness Demos with the following schedule in the gym:

8:00AM	Muscle in the Morning
8:30AM	Piloxing
9:00AM	Hip Hop Hustle
9:30AM	TurboKick
10:00AM	Mixxedfit
10:30AM	PiYo



In the aerobics room:

10:00AM	Zumba Kids
10:30AM	Young Warriors

Class descriptions can be found in the Winter/Spring City Scene or visit www.woodstockrecreationdepartment.com. Try one or try them all but come prepared for a great workout.

Want to Start to Get Healthy with an Exercise Program?

City of Woodstock employees receive an employee discount at the **Woodstock Recreation Center**. **The initiation fee is waived! Executive membership is \$35 per month. Full membership is \$25 per month.** Try a week for free! For more information, contact Mary Lynn Lisk or Renee Torrez at 815-338-4363 or visit www.woodstockrecreationdepartment.com for more information.